

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00741 041117Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00
/092 W

-----041233Z 124691 /41

R 040826Z MAY 77
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4495
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 0741

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, IZ, XF
SUBJECT: IRAQ AND ARABIAN PENINSULA

REF: (A) BAGHDAD 0441, (NOTAL), (B) BAGHDAD 0607 (NOTAL).

1. SUMMARY: GOI PURSUES SCHIZOPHRENIC POLICY TOWARD
STATES OF ARABIAN PENINSULA. CONSTRUCTIVE BILATERAL
APPROACH OF IZZAT IBRAHIM DELEGATION CONTRASTS WITH
VERBAL ATTACKS BY PRESIDENT BAKR ON ARAB "REACTIONARIES".
END SUMMARY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BAGHDA 00741 041117Z

2. IRAQI MEDIA ARE GIVING EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO GULF
TOUR OF RCC MEMBER IZZAT IBRAHIM AND ACCOMPANYING HIGH
LEVEL IRAQI DELEGATION (REF B). EMPHASIS IS ON
DEVELOPMENT OF BILATERAL COOPERATION WITH KUWAIT,
BAHREIN, QATAR, UAE, AND OMAN IN VARIOUS FIELDS.
GULF TOUR IS MANIFESTATION OF PRAGMATIC STRAIN IN

IRAQI FOREIGN POLICY WHICH SURFACES WHENEVER GOI SEEKS TO EMERGE FROM ITS ISOLATION IN ARAB WORLD.

3. BY CONTRAST, MAY DAY MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT BAKR WAS COUCHED IN HARDLINE REVOLUTIONARY RHETORIC WHICH HAS, IN THE PAST, ACCOMPANIED IRAQI SUPPORT FOR SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES IN OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES. STATEMENT, AS PUBLISHED BY LOCAL PRESS, AND SUMMARIZED BY FBIS, ATTACKS THE CONSPIRACY OF "U.S. IMPERIALISM, ZIONISM, REACTION AND THE AGENT SYRIAN REGIME" AGAINST THE PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE, THE LEBANESE NATIONAL MOVEMENT, AND THE ARAB REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT, WHOSE VANGUARD IS THE REVOLUTIONARY REGIME IN IRAQ. BAKR ALSO SCORES THE "UNIFICATION OF THE REACTIONARY AND CAPITULATIONIST REGIMES UNDER ONE LEADERSHIP, IN WHICH THE U.S. IS PLAYING THE PRIMARY ROLE".

4. PARALLEL DEVELOPMENT WAS OFFICIAL VISIT TO PDRY ON APRIL 28 AND 29 OF IRAQI MINISTER OF STATE, AMIR ABDULLAH. ONE OF THREE COMMUNIST MINISTERS IN THE IRAQI CABINET, CHOICE OF ABDULLAH TO REPRESENT GOI ABROAD SURPRISED SOME BAGHDAD OBSERVERS. HIS STATEMENTS IN ADEN, WHERE HE MET WITH PRESIDENT SALIM RUBAY'I ALI, PRIME MINISTER ALI NASIR MUHAMMED, AND PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL MEMBER ABD AL-FATTAH ISMAIL, TAKE AIM AT THE FAMILIAR THREE DEVILS OF IMPERIALISM, ZIONISM AND REACTION. MEDIA REPORTS HERE, WHICH SPOKE OF "ENTRENCHING MILITANT NATIONAL SOLIDARITY AND COOPERATION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BAGHDA 00741 041117Z

THE TWO COUNTRIES' LIBERATION POLICIES", SUPPORT THE VIEW THAT IRAQ FEELS AN IDEOLOGICAL COMPATIBILITY WITH THE PDRY AND HOPES TO BUY SOME INFLUENCE THERE TO COUNTER THE EFFECT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PDRY FROM THE CONSERVATIVE ARAB STATES. ABDULLAH VISIT RESPONDED TO THREE MINISTER LEVEL TRIPS TO BAGHDAD BY PDRY OFFICIALS FOLLOWING JOINT VISIT OF TWO YEMENI DELEGATIONS IN FEBRUARY (REF A). NORTH YEMENIS HAVE NOT BEEN BACK.

5. COMMENT: BAKR STATEMENT AND ABDULLAH VISIT TO ADEN ARE NOT MAKING IZZAT IBRAHIM'S JOB IN GULF CAPITALS ANY EASIER. USE OF TERM "REACTION" IS BAGHDAD CODE WORD FOR ARAB MONARCHIES. REVOLUTIONARY RHETORIC IS A CONDITIONED REFLEX AMONG IRAQ'S SENIOR OFFICIALS AND FREQUENTLY BEARS LITTLE RELATIONSHIP TO GOI ACTIONS. MUCH OF THIS RHETORIC IS DESIGNED FOR INTERNAL CONSUMPTION, PRIMARILY AMONG THE BRAIN-WASHED CADRES OF THE BAATH PARTY, WHO ARE THE

PRINCIPAL INTERNAL SUPPORTERS OF THE REGIME.
AT THE SAME TIME, THESE RHETORICAL EXCESSES DO
HAVE AN IMPACT ON FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING
IRAQ'S ARAB NEIGHBORS, WHO FIND IT DIFFICULT TO
FIT THE CONTRADICTORY SIGNALS RECEIVED FROM
THE GOI INTO A CONSISTENT PATTERN OF BEHAVIOR.
ON BALANCE, DESPITE THE RHETORICAL FLOURISHES, IT
APPEARS THAT GOI HAS SHIFTED ITS POLICIES TOWARDS THE
STATES OF THE ARABIAN PENINSULA AND IS NOW PLACING
MORE EMPHASIS ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF OFFICIAL
GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND LESS ON
COVERT SUBVERSION AS A MEANS OF ACHIEVING INFLUENCE.
WILEY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, GOODWILL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BAGHDA00741
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770156-0471
Format: TEL
From: BAGHDAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770597/aaaadfxs.tel
Line Count: 129
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 71bf309b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BAGHDAD 441, 77 BAGHDAD 607
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2650117
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IRAQ AND ARABIAN PENINSULA
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, IZ, XF, (IBRAHIM, IZZAT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/71bf309b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009